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GATCOMB'S MUSICAL GAZETTE

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BANJO, MANDOLIN AND GUITAR.

VOL. XII. No. 3. FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1899. Single Copies 10 Cents. Fifty Cents a Year.

Boston Y. M. C. A. Banjo and Mandolin Club.

TO MY BELOVED COMPANION.

Let me clasp thee to my breast,
My own dear love.
Let me grasp thy fair symmetrical arm,
And place my hand lovingly upon thy head.
Let me touch the vibrant strings of thy heart,
And list while you disclose to me in heavenly
Melody the sweet old story of thy life.
How that when many years ago,
In the sunny southland,
When thou were but yet an undeveloped,
Uncultured child, long before thy dear form
Had attained its present fascinating contour,
And thy entrancing voice,
The sweet sympathetic tone,
That now so charms all hearers,
How that you would linger by hours,
Outside the old cabin door,
As the pale light of the southern moon
Cast weird fantastic shadows
Through the branches of the tall magnolia,
O'er the white sanded ground beneath,
And made merry the hearts of your music loving,
Dark skinned companions, with your crude,
Yet sweet intonations.
Nestle still more closely to me darling,
And breath to me in soft pathetic accents,
The story of the long years of struggling,
Through which thou passed before reaching
That high eminence to which my love attained,
Through her untiring devotion,
To all that is grand and elevating
In the language of music,
And beautiful and artistic in manner of form.
How happy thou must feel,
Not only in the contemplation
Of thy worthy achievements,
But in possessing the knowledge of the fact,
That wherever thy entrancing voice is heard,
You perform the noble mission of ameliorating
The lives of all classes of humanity.
And now sweetheart mine, as the dreamy
Modulations of thy angelic voice dies away,
Methinks I hear the Mighty Messenger,
Of the Universe heralding the glad tidings
Of your well-earned ascendency
To the Throne of Melody.
So my beloved companion
Let those of the world whom love thee.
Place upon thy shapely head a crown
Symbolizing the coronation
Of the "Queen of Music."

W. B. LEONARD.

DANSVILLE, N. Y.

BOSTON Y. M. C. A. BANJO AND MANDOLIN CLUB.

The Boston Y. M. C. A. Banjo and Mandolin Club, a cut of which appears on page 1, was organized in the fall of '96 with a membership of twenty-six. It was soon found that this number could not be maintained successfully, so six of the best players were selected, and these formed the nucleus of the present club. Several more changes took place in the fall of '97, when the club was brought to its present complement of eight members.

At the start only banjos were used, but in the fall of '97 banjeaurines, bass and piccolo banjos were introduced, together with piano as the accompanying instrument. In the spring of '98 mandolins and mandola were added. With this instrumentation the club is enabled to render music with an expression and volume that cannot be produced by the ordinary banjo and mandolin club. It has the distinction of being the only organization of its kind using bass and piccolo banjos.

The personnel is as follows: J. A. Port, leader, banjo and mandolin soloist; C. F. Burgher, banjo and mandolin soloist; R. C. Hawkins, banjo and mandolin; W. U. Sherman, bass banjo and mandolin; J. H. Wilkins, piccolo banjo and mandolin; F. C. Withington, banjeaurine and mandolin; H. Wells, manager, banjeaurine and mandola; J. H. Dodge, piano soloist and accompanist.

The club is extremely fortunate in having such capable soloists as Messrs. Port and Burgher. Both gentlemen have unusual ability in this line and their duets have always captured the audience. Mr. Port is winning success as a banjo, mandolin and guitar instructor at his home in South Boston, where he has a large class of pupils. Mr. J. H. Dodge possesses talent of a superior order, and his piano solos are a feature of the club's program.

It would perhaps be fitting to say that each member is or has been a pupil of Mr. G. L. Lansing, who has been engaged as instructor of the club. The success it has achieved is due in a large measure to his careful training.

Their annual concert will be given at Association Hall in April, when they will be assisted by John Thomas, humorist, and the Association Glee Club.

CAN THESE THINGS BE?

The profession of master of singing is one of the most, if not the most, lucrative in America, where singing has become an indispensable adjunct to a good education. This is so true that a professor of some legitimate or fictitious reputation can easily make an income of from $10,000 to $12,000 during the study season without more trouble than to work six hours per day. A few among them have realized enviable fortunes in a few years. This has excited the cupidity of many, and as the teaching of singing is a free profession into which any musician, or good or bad singer, may enter, and even those who are neither musicians nor singers, the result is that the teaching of singing in the hands of absolutely incompetent persons has become a scandal and a disgrace.

During the past few years the number of so-called vocal teachers has considerably increased, and as the number of students remains about the same, competition has taken such fraudulent proportions as to offend common sense. In the fearful struggle to pull out the dollars from the pockets of innocent victims, each professor, incapable of attracting pupils by his own talent, invents some way of advertising, some trick that will attract attention, whereupon he proceeds to put his extravagant ideas into practice. The result to the innocent believer is loss of health and voice.

Some pretend to teach singing with the mouth closed, causing their pupils to produce a sound like the cooing of pigeons. Others, on the contrary, make them open the mouth as much as possible, force the jaws apart and lower the tongue by the aid of an apparatus resembling a horse's bit, and which, under the name of vocalette has been put upon the market.

A certain professor, who poses as a scientist, announces the invention of a method of teaching singing by mail, and the lessons are sold in large or small packages, according to the price offered by the buyer.

One lecturer professor, who was director of a conservatory, for the purpose of developing the lungs of his pupils ties a cord tightly around their chests making them sustain tones while they raise a chair, held by its back, as high as their arms can reach, and then slowly lower it, continuing to sustain the tone with force. This man is one of the most dangerous of all, for he has established a special class for teachers, offering to procure them positions in Western schools and seminaries, which will pay them from $400 to $800 and board; that is to say, that he sends out broadcast the microbe of tuberculosis throughout all those States. Unfortunately the prospect of gaining a livelihood attracts aspirants, and fills his pockets.

Another professor, a lecturer and director of a pretended school of vocal science, seriously teaches that "the beauty of the voice depends upon the control of a muscle which singers have back of the ears. A grocer from Connecticut, who came to New York to give lessons in singing, makes his pupils throw the head backward as much as possible, in order, he says, "to raise the glottis and give more timbre to the voice." A "voice specialist" having heard that cold countries produce low voices and warm countries high voices fastens to his pupil's necks a hollow rubber collar filled with ice to develop the low tones, and another collar filled with hot water to develop the high tones.

These are but a few of the extravagant and ridiculous inventions that could be enumerated. Some are dangerous to health, others are inoffensive. They are constantly being multiplied. They descend from teacher to pupil, who in turn becomes a teacher, and invents something, in his hungry desire to be considered more wise than his teacher. The final result is loss of voice, health and money to so many unforunates who have made great sacrifices to pay for their lessons for the purpose of obtaining a church position. At the time application is made for the vacant positions hundreds appear with execrable and useless voices, so that it has become difficult to procure even a mediocre quartet. Organists and church committees, who have charge of selecting the

singers, could easily furnish evidence on this point, as to the poor vocal condition of the pretenders for the best church positions, who, without being discouraged by numerous refusals, wait patiently year after year for the opportune moment that will allow them to realize their ambitious desires. Finally they seek refuge in the chorus of some comic opera, if by good fortune they have been able to preserve enough health and voice to shout for twelve or fifteen dollars a week.

All these vanished illusions, these blasted hopes, and this lost health represent in round numbers the expenditure of $1,200,000 during the study season each year, which comes from the pockets of the 5,000 students of singing, in New York and Brooklyn, who pay on an average of $6.00 for two lessons per week, the price of lessons being from $2.00 to $5.00 for a half hour lesson, according to the rule established by the 400 professors existing in the two cities.

This outrageous state of things demands serious investigation, and a remedy that will be a safeguard for the interests of so many innocent victims, and which will protect their ignorance, credulity and good faith. A law should be passed requiring special knowledge on the part of these so-called professors of singing, obliging them to obtain a diploma or title, which will authorize them to teach and guarantee their ability. Doctors, lawyers, chemists and others have to take out a diploma before they can practice. Why should not singing professors also be made to do so?—*Musical America.*

A NEW MANAGER.

Mr. Valentine Abt, who has done as much as any other player or composer to popularize and elevate to its proper place the mandolin, and who is no doubt to-day one of the greatest living exponents of its possibilities, has secured the services of R. W. Neubauer as business manager beginning with Jan. 1, 1899. Heretofore Mr. Abt has, with the aid of a clerk, been able to take care of the work requisite in securing engagements, but the demands upon his artistic talents have increased wonderfully within the past season so that the services of a manager were necessary.

Mr. Neubauer has for several years been identified with the mandolin, especially in his native city, Scranton, Pa., where he has directed and managed the first successful mandolin organization in concert work. The Columbian Mandolin, Banjo and Guitar Club organized and managed by him enjoyed a wide-spread popularity as well as success. He also managed for several seasons the popular Chamber Concerts of the Hemberger String Quartet and the success from season to season of the Symphony Orchestra Society concerts were largely due to his personal efforts.

Mr. Neubauer is a most clever performer on the mandolin and an enthusiast upon all questions relating to the instrument. He personally has played with Mr. Abt for three successive seasons in Scranton and received many engagements in other cities, his valuable suggestions enabling local managers to realize neat sums on these concerts.

Mr. Neubauer's address is for the present 922 Myrtle Street, Scranton, Pa. We wish him success.

THE BOWDOIN GLEE AND MANDOLIN CLUBS.

Friday evening, Jan. 20, the Bowdoin College Glee and Mandolin Clubs made their first appearance in Boston and a large and thoroughly appreciative audience greeted them, in which were many old graduates of the college. The night before the clubs gave a concert at Wellesly. These Bowdoin organizations have been most cordially received in the cities and larger towns of Maine, where in the past they have frequently appeared. They "captured" Boston as well, and a conservative opinion would place them with the best organizations of the kind which have ever visited the Hub. Mr. W. B. Adams, leader of the Glee Club, showed himself a fine director and Mr. A. B. White, leader of the Mandolin Club had evidently trained his men with skill. A leading Boston daily gave the boys the following send-off: "Applause was liberally bestowed. The first number was 'The Onward March,' by the glee and mandolin clubs. They played with vim and excellent harmony and were enthusiastically applauded. Then followed a march entitled 'La Fiesta,' which pleased all. Mr. Appleton and a glee club then rendered a plantation melody. The next number was a patrol by the mandolin and guitar club entitled 'The Slippery Quaker.' It was finely executed. The glee club then sang 'Ye Cattle' with much favor and had to respond several times. Mr. Jordan and the mandolin and guitar club played 'Il Trovatore' much to the delight of all. The mandolin and guitar club contributed a serenade, followed by the glee club with 'Juanita.' The next number was Sousa's 'Stars and Stripes Forever,' by the mandolin and guitar club. The entertainment concluded with college songs, 'Phi Chi' and 'Bowdoin Beata,' by the glee and mandolin and guitar clubs, which were excellently given."

SIGNOR RAPISARDA'S CONCERT.

Signor Gaetano Rapisarda, the eminent mandolinist, gave his first annual concert in Boston in Steinert Hall, Thursday evening January 19, in the presence of a large audience. The assisting talent included; Miss Helen McDevitt, contralto, Miss Marguerite Curtis, reader, Mr. Henry Keefe, guitarist, Mr. Alfred Walter, basso cantante, and a trio consisting of Mr. Elmer D. Jones, first mandolin, Mr. G. Harry Seeley, second mandolin, and Sig. Didico Bianchi, mandola. Mrs. Mabel F. Barnes officiated as piano accompanist.

As he always does, Signor Rapisarda appeared at his best, charming his hearers with both the strength and delicacy of his interpretation, the encores being numerous and hearty. His program renditions were; in his first appearance, "Il Trovatore" and "Intermezzo, Cavalleria Rusticana;" in which he has very ably accompanied by Mr. Keefe; "Fantasie, op. 100," (Beriot) and that most difficult violin solo of Paganini's, "First Concerto, Allegro to D and Adagio." The support, without particularizing, was excellent.

THEIR POPULARITY STILL INCREASING.

Mays and Hunter's popularity is still as strong as ever. It is a considerable while now since they came among us, but to their audiences they are always new. Our representative called in at the Metropolitan a few nights ago, and heard them give "L'Infanta," "William Tell," and some clever imitations which fairly brought down the house, ending with their latest hit, "The Patrol of the Powers." Towards the close of "William Tell" Mr. Hunter broke an outside string, but he changed banjos and caught up again, scarcely losing a bar, almost before the audience realized quite what had happened. They play to full orchestra accompaniment, but the banjos are heard above it with an ease which speaks great things for their tone.—*Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar News.*

From Walter Jacobs, Boston, for two mandolins and guitar, "Shepherd Lullaby," (reverie) by Edward Holst, 50 cents; for two mandolins and piano, "Shepherd Lullaby," (reverie) by Edward Holst, 60 cents; for piano solo, "Shepherd Lullaby," (reverie) by Edward Holst, 40 cents; for guitar, "Myra Waltz," by George W. Bemis, 30 cents; for guitar "Lulla Waltz," by A. J. Weidt, 40 cents.

From Louis F. Wright, Winsted, Conn., for two banjos, "Naval Review March," E. S. Farrell, 25 cents; for two banjos, "Mayflower Waltz," by L. F. Wright, 25 cents; for guitar, "Sad Days," (reverie) by L. F. Wright, 15 cents.

GATCOMB'S

MUSICAL GAZETTE.

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1 Column,	1	insertion	$7.00
1-2 "	1	"	4.00
1 inch,	1	"	1.00

On yearly advertisements we make 20 per cent, discount from the above rates.

Advertisements under the heading "Prominent Teachers of Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin," two lines, $1.00 per year; additional lines 50 cents per line.

Subscribers who receive the "Gazette" in a RED WRAPPER will understand that their subscription expires with that number, and will please renew promptly to avoid delay.

Entered at Boston Post Office as Second-class Matter.

FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1899.

EDITORIAL.

We would remind players and teachers to send to the GAZETTE notices of concerts, engagements and any other items of interest anent themselves or their friends. By so doing they contribute to a more readable paper to themselves and others.

Look out for the red wrapper on your GAZETTE. It is a danger signal and means that you are more than likely to be suddenly deprived of this favorite paper. In such cases the quickest and safest remeby is to renew your subsciption *instanter*.

On another page will be found an interesting advertisement of Valentine Abt, the great mandolinist, and we commend it to the attention of our readers without further comment.

John C. Freund has consolidated his two papers, *Musical America* and *Music Trades*, and together they make a most attractive and thoroughly readable journal. "John C." knows his business.

Business seems to be improving according to clearing-house indications, our trade papers reports and general indications are that prosperity is on the return road. Let us live in hopes.

The Euterpe Club will give its annual concert in Association Hall, Boylston Street, February 14, and it will undoubtedly, as in the past, be a highly successful one.

FROM A COMPETENT CRITIC.

Gatcomb's MUSICAL GAZETTE, which is devoted to the interests of the banjo, mandolin and guitar, has made its appearance for December and January, and an excellent number it is. It contains interesting reading matter pertaining to the players of the above instruments and clever short articles on different subjects. The front page displays a very fine portrait of the Amberside Banjo and Mandolin trio and a sketch of their successful work.

Mr. Gatcomb's MUSICAL GAZETTE has become very popular with players of the banjo, mandolin and guitar, who have found it instructive as well as interesting, and brim full of news. For that reason it has a large following.—*Music Trades*, December 31.

Mr. Fred T. McGrath of Savannah, Ga., where he is now spending his third season, is having an excellent business in instruction work on banjo, mandolin and guitar.

Mr. S. Siegel of Des Moines, Ia., who made such a hit at Keith's recently, was frequently a visitor at the office of the L. B. Gatcomb Co., during his stay in Boston, where he was often heard on the mandolin, of which he is a master.

The Amberside Banjo and Mandolin Trio give their annual concert, in Union Hall, Boston, Tuesday evening, February 7. A banjo orchestra of 30 performers will assist.

Mays and Hunter have just completed a most successful South Coast tour, embracing Brighton, Southampton, etc., where their reception, on each occasion, testified to their ever-increasing popularity.—*The Banjo News*.

The Cornell Glee, Banjo and Mandolin Clubs, fifty strong, have just finished a successful Western tour, giving concerts in Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit and other large cities. Their organization is as follows: Manager, W. K. Auchincloss; president, F. Eurich, Jr.; leader of glee club, J. H. Wynne; leader of banjo club, W. B. Stamford; leader of mandolin club, W. O. Morton. J. Allen Haines has charge of the financial part of the concert in Chicago.

A very successful entertainment and dance was given by the West Side Old Settler's Club at West Side Turn hall, Chicago, Friday evening, Jan. 6. Several numbers were rendered by the Novelty Mandolin and Guitar club.

A musicale given at the Calumet Club, Chicago, Thursday evening, Jan. 5, by the Glee and Mandolin Clubs of the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, assisted by Salvatore Tomaso.

Mr. J. K. Bilborough of Concord, N. H. has just recently begun instruction work on the guitar. Mr. Bilborough is a pupil of A. A. Babb and a music performer of experience and much ability and we wish him much success in his new departure.

W. B. Leonard, the well-known banjoist and teacher, who has until this winter spent the last five years in the South, where he has met with much success, has thus far this season been located at Dansville, N. Y. which is in the vicinity of his old home.

Prof. Kolander's mandolin, guitar and banjo orchestra gave a very entertaining concert January 12, in Union Square Hall, San Francisco. The program included selections by Prof. Kolander's mandolin, guitar and banjo orchestra of 40 members, banjo selections by Howard Bros. and Lennon's Second Artillery Regiment Band Orchestra.

We acknowledge the receipt of an excellent cabinet photograph of Mr. Charles H. O'Connell of New Haven, Conn., the well-known local banjo teacher. Mr. O'Connell is now located at 88 Ivy Street.

Louis F. Wright of West Winsted, Conn., dealer in musical merchandise, reports a good business during this season. See his advertisement in another column.

Prof. W. B. Leonard's banjo and guitar class of Dansville, N. Y. gave a recital at the Jackson Sanitarium December 5, at the close of the first term, with other talent assisting. It was a success in all respects and reflected credit on Prof. Leonard.

Hyde Gowan of Vancouver Conservatory of Music is a young banjo virtuoso of brilliant prospects. He has already made a reputation for himself. Mr. Gowan will make a transcontinental tour through Canada and probably New England, beginning April 3, giving recitals alone and also with the assistance of local talent.

A desperado entered C. F. Grobman's music store Milwaukee recently, walked up to the bookeeper's desk and grabbing $700 in money which Mr. Grobman was counting, made his escape before the occupants of the place were aware of what was taking place. Mr. Grobman Sr., was rendered unconscious from a blow with the butt end of a revolver, and the efforts of physicians failed to revive him until after several hours had elapsed.

Mr. John C. Haynes, the millionaire music dealer, who started as a clerk for the late Oliver Ditson, is reported to be operating largely in real estate in and about Dorchester, Mass.

The Major for December contains a cut of and article of the Waldo Quartette of Wheeling, W. Va. one of the very

best musical organizations of that section. The make up is W. W. Vardy, mandolin and banjo; G. H. Otto, mandolin and banjoaurine; W. L. Miller mandolin and banjoaurine; and H. J. Ritter, harp guitar. The orgranization has travelled considerably.

On Friday, November 18, Alfred A. Farland appeared in concert at Masonic Temple, Saginaw, Mich., under the direction of the Waldo Quintette Club of that city. There was a good audience, and the concert was a pronounced artistic success.—*The Major*, Saginaw.

The pupils of Prof. E. McQuarrie of Halifax, N. S., gave a fine exhibition in that city the latter part of November, it being a deserved compliment to their teacher. Of the professor himself the Halifax *Herald* said: "Professor McQuarrie's banjo solo was much appreciated by the audience and showed him to be a thorough master of the instrument."

Of Hyde Gowan the Vancouver, B. C., banjo virtuoso who will soon tour Canada and perhaps New England, "Shulap" says in the Vancouver *World*: "Mr. Gowan deserves every flattering adjective in the dictionary for his work. His banjo behaved like a mandolin, only better. His execution and banjoical technique were abundantly proved in Moskoviski's Spanish dance. He is certainly more than master of his instrument. He is its magician."

W. E. Temlett, editor of the *Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar News*, London, gave his second annual concert in St. Martins Town Hall, Charing Cross, W. C., Jan. 25, Halfpenny, Pepper and other notable talent being on the program.

The Boston Ideal Club has contracted for a months concert work in the South and West during the holiday season of 1899–1900. It has refused all offers to travel during the present season, although it has accepted considerably many engagements in Boston and vicinity and in different New England cities and towns.

Vess L. Ossman continues to enjoy a run of concerts and general entertainment work in addition to a very large banjo instruction business. He is both a brilliant performer and composer.

E. M. Hall, the noted banjoist, opened at the Orpheum Theatre, Kansas City, Dec. 18, after a several weeks illness at his home in Chicago. He is booking dates for the balance of the season.

Lansing's Boston Mandolin Orchestra gave a highly entertaining recital Thursday evening, Jan. 12, which was much appreciated by those attending. Assisting were Mr. A. A. Babb, guitarist and Mrs. E. L. Bowlby, contralto. The work of the orchestra was very creditable, both to the members and to Mr. Lansing. The instrumentation included fourteen mandolins, seven guitars, two mandolas, three banjos and 'cello.

Myron A. Bickford of Greenfield is a banjo teacher, who has his share of business. He also has classes in Brattleboro. Vt. and Hinsdale, N. H.

Mr. Chas. F. Raymore, the veteran banjo teacher and performer, also connected with the Raymore Piano Co., is now located at 437 Meridian Street, East Boston. Mr. Raymore has composed some very pretty music for the banjo.

"A STAR IN THE EAST."

Mr. Samuel Siegel of Des Moines, Ia., the noted Western mandolinist, who is touring the East for the first time professionally, was at Keith's Theatre, this city, the week of January 16. Mr. Siegel is indeed a wonderful player, in fact we do not know that we have ever listened to a better one and he is bound to become famous in his particular field. Here in Boston he created a genuine sensation and leaves behind a most favorable impression.

From Boston Mr. Siegel went to Providence appearing there at Keith's and from there, goes to New York. He will also fill a number of social engagements while in the East. In the early spring he is booked at the Palace Theatre, London, where without doubt he will be met as cordially as any of his American brethren.

"SIX MONTHS WITH UNCLE SAM."

Our readers will recall an article from the pen of Harry C. Browne, which appeared in the October number of the GAZETTE.

Mr. Browne, it will be remembered, was a member of the 2d Massachusetts, the first volunteer regiment to be ordered to the front. He was in the historic charge of El Caney, under fire at San Juan, and a witness of the surrender of Santiago.

Since his return from Cuba, he has been requested by numerous societies and organizations to publicly narrate his experiences as a member of Co. M, 2d Massachusetts Regiment during its brief, but eventful campaign.

"Six Months with Uncle Sam," which he has chosen as a subject for his lecture, deals principally with events connected with the 2d Massachusetts Regiment, and particularly Company M, of which he was a member.

It treats of every happening of importance from the date of departure to South Framingham May 3d, until its return. Camp, transport and field life are fully discussed, and reminiscences of humorous and pathetic scenes are interwoven in the text.

The fact that he had not known a sick moment until after the surrender of Santiago rendered it possible for him to fully observe what was going on.

From the numerous press notices which we have received, we note with pleasure that Mr. Browne is meeting with the most flattering success.

Among the many tributes to his ability in his newly chosen field, are letters of a congratulatory nature from the colonel of his regiment; his captain; Col. Richardson, late of the Governor's staff; the mayor of North Adams, and the superintendent of the public schools in the latter city; who tersely close as follows: "Mr. Browne is an entertaining, instructive, graphic and pleasing talker. He has a good story to tell and he knows how to tell it."

Colonel Clark writes: "My best wishes for your success, and my belief that you will give the public an instructive and enjoyable entertainment. I am warranted in speaking thus by your admirable record as a member of Co. M, and your ability as an entertainer in camp."

A feature of Mr. Browne's entertainment is the introduction of the banjo, at which time he renders the songs sang upon the transports and while in camp. Mr. Browne is an artist in the manipulation of the banjo, and this adds no little to the enjoyment of the entertainment.

We are pleased to note that he is booking rapidly and congratulate him upon his success.

AMERICAN COMPOSITIONS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. W. E. Temlett has asked us to mention that he has ready several new American compositions. First of these is the "Dandy Fifth" Quickstep, by A. A. Farland. This is the first composition of Farland's ever published in this country, and we believe one of the first things he ever wrote. Its popularity is too great to need comment. Another composition makes its appearance simultaneously, which is also known and played throughout the length and breadth of the States, the famous "Mill Dam Galop" by A. A. Babb. It is safe to predict that this bright galop will meet with a success here which will rival that which it has already gained in America.—*Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar News.*

The above from a well-known English musical journal shows the popularity in England of American compositions for the banjo. Babb's "Mill Dam Galop" has had indeed a tremendous run in this country, and has just been published for pianoforte by the L. B. Gatcomb Co. A large number of compositions from the Gatcomb catalogue have also been published in England and have found much favor there.

"IN DARKEST AFRICA."

A large audience attended the Metropolitan Hall last evening to hear the Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Festival, held under the auspices of the Green Point Cycling Club. The primary object of the concert was to liquidate the indebtedness of the club incurred in the purchase of multicycles, and this was in a great measure accomplished. The instrumental portion of the programme was undertaken by the Crescent Banjo and Mandolin Bands, and they were supplemented by musical sketches, songs, etc. The progress of the banjo and mandolin bands has been very marked, and they will prove a leading factor in Western Province entertainments. The programme was of uniform excellence, and great enthusiasm was evoked, recalls being the order of the evening.—*The Cape Argus.*

The above from one of the leading papers of Cape Town, Africa, shows that the banjo, mandolin and guitar are in demand everywhere. One of the most popular selections at the above concert was Lansing's famous "Darkies' Dream."

JESSIE DELANE AT KEITH'S.

The recent weeks' engagement of Jessie Delane, at Keith's Union Square Theatre, New York, was a successful event in her musical career. She was not only well received by crowded audiences, but she succeeded in holding their attention.

Her playing embraced one piece in the guitar style, and an arrangement of her own in the stroke method.

It was the skill which was shown by her in the latter difficult method that elicited the most favorable critical commendation, unique effects making the arrangement exceptional in attracting attention, especially on Thanksgiving Day, when enthusiastic applause repeatedly broke in upon her playing of its several parts. Under all the circumstances Miss Delane is to be congratulated upon having deservedly added to her reputation.

It may be incidentally stated that she has under consideration a flattering offer to make another public appearance.

CONCERTS.

C. K. Hawes big banjo, mandolin, guitar and orchestral concert came off in Portland, Me., on time, to wit, January 6, as scheduled. It was a large sized affair and a highly successful one as well. City Hall was the place and it was none too large to accommodate audience and performers. The latter in fact included two grand orchestras of one hundred and fifty performers. One orchestra consisted of one hundred mandolins, guitars and orchestral instruments under Fred A. Given director, and another of fifty banjos and guitars under W. H. Hatch director. The assisting talent included Miss Evangeline A. Ballard, cornetist, Miss Carrie B. Manchester and Mr. H. A. Given, violinists, Hatch and Skillin, instrumentalists, George McConnell sketch artist, the Emerson Male Quartette and the Premium Mandolin and Guitar Club and Misses Clement and Varney Class selections were also given by pupils of Fannie L. Thompson. A piano was given away to the person selling the largest number of tickets to the concert.

The Zingari Glee and Banjo Clubs gave their annual concert in Windsor Hall, Montreal, Dec. 14, assisted by the best local artists and by Miss Clara Aline Jewell of New York City. The feature of the concert was the work of the Banjo and Glee Club members and their selections were accorded a flattering reception. Mr. Meredith Heward, instructor of its Banjo Club, received a well deserved encore for his brilliant banjo solo.

Following is the make-up of the Banjo Club: Mr. Meredith Heward, conductor; banjeaurines, Mr. W. H. Simpson, Mr. F. T. H. Bacon, Mr. J. H. A. Clark; second banjeaurines, Mr. W. T. Rodden, Mr. C. E. Howard; banjos, Mr. A. W. Roper, Mr. S. M. Andrews, Mr. J. R. Dunlop, Mr. W. G. Slack; bass banjos, Mr. R. M. Rodden, Mr. J. Reid Hyde; guitars, Mr. J. A. Baylis, Mr. J. D. Baile, Mr. A. S. Towers, Mr. T. B. Cole, Mr. A. O. Carvell, Dr. H. J. S. Nichol.

BOSTON PIANO MEN ELECT OFFICERS.

The Boston Music Trade Association held its annual meeting in Steinert Hall January 14, and elected officers for the ensuing year; President George F. Blake, of the A. M. McPhail Co., Alexander Steinert, of M. Steinert & Sons, First Vice-President; Handel Pond, of Ivers & Pond, Second Vice-President; Frank H. Owen, of the A. M. McPhail Co., Secretary; Chandler W. Smith, of the Chandler W. Smith Co., Treasurer. The Executive Committee consists of H. F. Miller, George A. Gibson, of the Ivers & Pond Co., George H. Hutchings, and P. H. Powers.

DANVILLE, N. Y., Jan. 2, 1899.

MY DEAR GATCOMB:

Allow me to wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. This is the first winter that I have passed in the north for five years and thus far I have enjoyed it all very much. The weather does not get exceedingly cold in this valley, and there is very little sleighing to indulge in, unless you should care to go up among the hills above the town.

My pupils gave a very enjoyable and successful recital at the Jackson Sanitarium, on the evening of Dec. 5th, of which I enclose programme. My orchestra has also been doing some acceptable concert work.

Do not expect to remain here but a short time longer, but as yet do not know where I will jump too.

Have been teaching here since last August and business has been exceptionally good during my stay. Trusting that the GAZETTE staff passed a very enjoyable Xmas

I am fraternally,

W. B. LEONARD.

"How's this, you're already advertising again a dog lost? That's the third dog you've lost in a month."

"O, it's just my luck! Since my daughter has been taking singing lessons I can't keep an animal on the place!"—*Der Floh.*

Mrs. Hayricks—It says here in the paper, Silas, that this war has served to bring the people of our country closer together. Do you think there's any truth in it?

Mr. Hayrick—Yes. When I looked into the parlor last night Lieut. Striplings and our Annie was settin' a good deal closer together than I ever seen 'em before he went away.—*Chicago News.*

"I believe Clarinda is engaged to young Sampson."

"Why?"

"Well, when he first called here she used to tell us everything he said, and now she doesn't tell us anything."—*Detroit Free Press.*

She (rising from the piano)—Do you play, Mr. Stickett?

He - No; but I am thinking of taking lessons. I have a good ear for time, don't you know.

She—Indeed! Was that 11 or 12 the clock just now struck?—*Chicago News.*

Clara—"I'm so fond of music! I want to play the piano awfully."

Laura—"Well you do play it awfully.'"

—*Exchange.*

"What's the matter with that post office clock?" asked the visitor. "It seems to go by fits and starts."

"I suppose," said the weary-looking man, "that it must have caught the musical spirit of the age, so that it can't tell anything but ragtime."—*Washington Star.*

Banjo and guitar players have their pick of tunes.—*Evening Wisconsin.*

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"He played but one number of his own compositions, but that was a gem and was warmly encored."—*Haverhill, Mass., Paper.*

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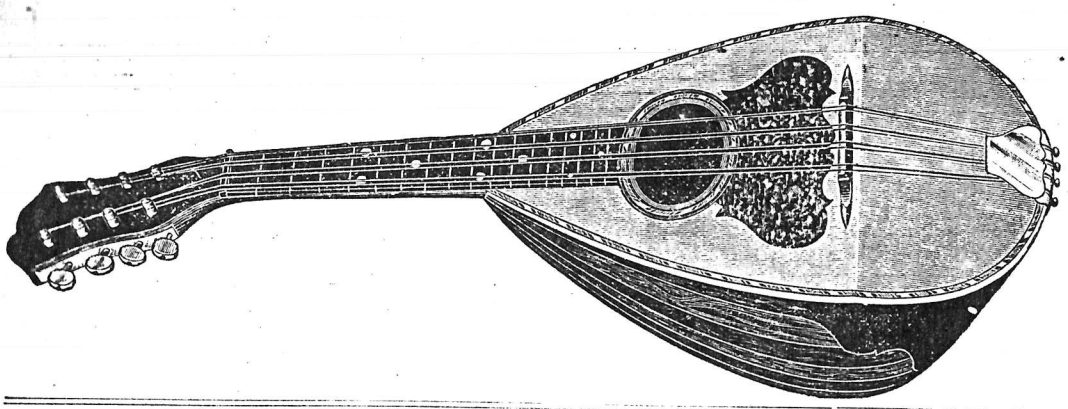

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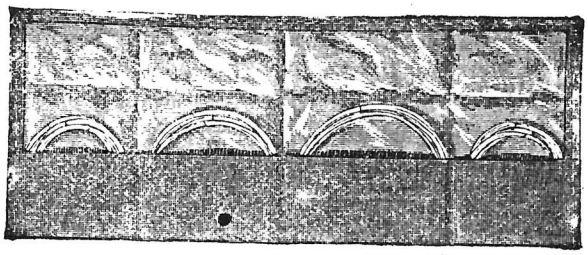

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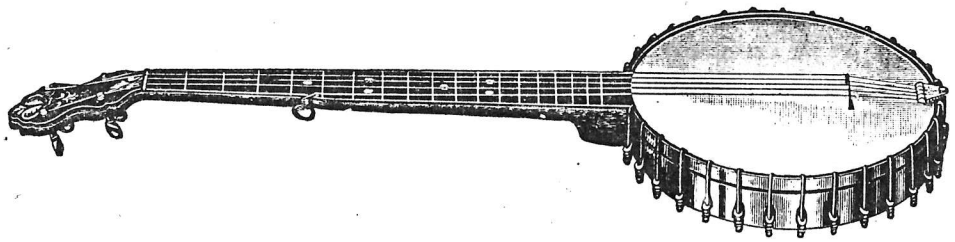

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